



IYPF NEWS

JULY 2005

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***Informing, Inspiring and Equipping Young Professionals
as Sustainability Practitioners and Social Change Agents***

Welcome to the IYPF July 2005 Newsletter

So much has happened in the last month – from bombings in London, Live8 concerts throughout Europe, the US and Africa, ongoing conflicts in Iraq and Afghanistan, famine in Niger, upheaval in Zimbabwe ... the list goes on. And so much more, hidden from the media, not finding its way to the camera's and the satellite's beaming news in to my lounge room or finding their way to the news internet sites I visit.

All of this often makes wonder whether we are bearing witness to momentous events or whether they are just bumps that everyone through history would have observed if they were given the same lenses as us – that is, access to information on a global scale. Are we living in 'interesting times', a period of unrest and instability as empires rise and fall, a space in history where courageous acts, leadership, compassion can alter the future? Or is this how it always is and has been?

I also wonder about the many untold stories of heroic acts, those working tirelessly, giving of themselves to make the world a better place, stories that I am privileged to hear because of my involvement with the IYPF and my work in fair trade. We need more of these stories in the media to inspire us, encourage us that there is hope.

Hope is such an important phenomena in our world. Many have lost hope – and with good reason. We cannot let ourselves feel hopeless or helpless. We have the ability, the opportunity, to contribute and to make a difference. Hope and courage to act despite insurmountable opposition, in the face of hopeless situations, are essential for us as social change agents and sustainability practitioners as we work together to create a better world for current and future generations.

This newsletter, we trust, is a tool for assisting you to be hopeful and courageous.

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What Is IYPF and How You Can Help

Our aim is that its content informs you on many issues and inspires you to take action on those that are important to you and that you feel passionate about. This month's edition includes amongst many things information on a new HIV and AIDS network, an inspiring story of a young professional in Sri Lanka, an opinion piece and many resources related to the G8 meeting and the Global Call to Action Against Poverty (GCAP), and opportunities and resources for you to follow up.

Thanks to all of the courageous IYPF volunteers and members for their role in changing the world for the better. We welcome your support and involvement. The world and its peoples need us to play our part – whether these are momentous times or not.

Cameron Neil
CEO
cameronneil@iypf.org

IYPF ORGANISATIONAL NEWS

Board News

As my article outlines, July was a huge month for many involved in campaigning for debt relief and poverty alleviation. Getting debt relief on the G8 agenda was no small achievement.

However, during this period many people have also reminded me of the importance of keeping these developments in perspective. Relieving government of their large international debts will not necessarily lead to a better standard of living for the poorest, greater political freedom for the oppressed or better management of natural resources.

I tend to agree, but that doesn't mean that we cannot take heart from the amount of interest and goodwill generated by the Live8 concerts. It seems that large numbers of people in the West, perhaps even a majority, do care about the welfare of people in other countries, and are willing to make sacrifices to help them.

However, this positive energy needs to be directed into action. And debt relief and aid, often with unpalatable conditions attached, are not long term solutions to the problems at hand. As one African farmer was quoted as saying 'Why do westerners give charity to our governments? African people are more than capable of helping themselves, if they are provided with the opportunity.'

The problem is that much of the money provided by rich countries never reaches the people it is intended for.

This is why I believe the work of organisations like the IYPF is so important. Direct partnerships between real people, across national and cultural boundaries, hold out the promise of better understanding and a better life for all. Let's keep up this vital work!

In other news, Derfish Ilyas has moved on from the Board due to other responsibilities. Sarah-Jo Dawson will now join the IYPF Board as a Director. Sarah-Jo joined the IYPF after attending the 2001 IYPS. Prior to this she had been the chair of the Green World Society at Birmingham University, and a member of the REMED, an international network for the environment. Sarah-Jo has won awards for her work in the area of corporate responsibility.

The Board thanks Derfish for his contribution and welcomes Sarah-Jo.

Andrew Stanton
andrewstanton@iypf.org

New Board Member

Sarah-Jo Dawson
 England
sarahjodawson@iypf.org



Sarah-Jo tries to keep the environment and sustainability on her agenda both inside and outside of work.

She has a background in engineering and works as a Safety Health and Environment manager with Unilever. This has included working on the Living Lake and Wytersede water stewardship project, and helping to organise the *Vitality Summer* where 3500 employees took part in Community and Environment projects.

Outside work Sarah-Jo is active in conservation activities. She aims to continue to work in the corporate sector driving corporate social responsibility as a reality rather than a catchphrase.

New IYPF Communities

In addition to the new HIV and AIDS network recently established (details on the next page), the IYPF has also over the last few months quietly established some new topical communities on education and the MDGs. These new communities reflect the evolving interests of our organisation and membership and we invite you to join up and get involved.

To join the Education community, which provides a form for sharing of information, opinions and ideas amongst young professionals interested in or working on providing education for all or in using education as a tool for development, go to <http://projects.takingitglobal.org/iypf-education>.

To join the Young Professionals and the Millennium Development Goals community, and get informed about the MDGs, and assist in achieving the objectives they outline, go to <http://projects.takingitglobal.org/ypmdg>.

For all IYPF communities, visit our site: www.iypf.org/IYPF-campaigns.htm.

IYPF ACTIVITIES

Launch of the International Young Professionals HIV and AIDS Network (IYPHAN)

by Russel Chisango

<http://projects.takingitglobal.org/YP-HIV-AIDS>

- Have you ever wished to become part of a leading, progressively unique and difference making, global, young professional led and oriented HIV and AIDS Network that is vibrant and dynamic?
- Do you really care about those infected or affected by this devastating human tragedy crisis, HIV and AIDS?
- Do you think that young people should be prioritised in the fight against HIV and AIDS?
- Are you a young professional, a youth HIV and AIDS activists, a youth worker involved in HIV and AIDS programmes?
- Do you dream of a world without HIV and AIDS?
- Are you keen to make a real difference in the ongoing global fight against HIV and AIDS?
- Do you wish to share your views on the crucial discourse on HIV and AIDS at a global level?
- Are you an effective team player with a clear sense of vision and mission?

If your answer is YES to any one, several, or all of the questions above, congratulations and be happy! Now you have found the missing link, you have found the master key to unlock your dreams into reality!

You are hereby kindly invited to join the International Young Professionals HIV and AIDS Network - your kind of Network! Formed by young professionals for youth and young professional HIV and AIDS activists, the network is geared to offering a highly effective and efficient forum/platform for coordination of youth and young professionals` HIV and AIDS focused initiatives at a global level.

The International Young Professionals HIV and AIDS Network (IYPHAN) has been initiated under the aegis of the International Young Professionals Foundation. It is an HIV and AIDS focused global membership network for young professionals and/or their organisations.

I know you are aware that HIV does not discriminate. Yes, it infects and affects people regardless of their sex, geography, social class or sexual orientation. With such facts in mind it is critically crucial and certainly vital that regardless of our sex, geography, social class or sexual orientation we may purposefully unite towards halting the spread of the devastating HIV. IYPHAN presents to you an opportunity for this!

It is our passionate aim to foster an enabling environment for global and or regional cooperation amongst youth and young professional HIV and AIDS activists against the global epidemic. We are waging a war on HIV and AIDS and together we will build the winning army!

We are convinced that winning the war against HIV and AIDS is a milestone towards the realisation of the MDGs. For us as a global village to be able to achieve sustainable economic growth and prosperity, without having the HIV and AIDS epidemic reversing the hard-fought development gains of previous decades it is imperative that more and more young people have to meaningfully participate in programmes that empower them to protect themselves and their peers through accurate and non-judgemental information and a supportive environment that reduces their vulnerability to infection.

Therefore my dear friend, brother or sister - regardless of your global location - come on now and do not procrastinate, do not leave yourself out of this focused and inspired network especially if you have answered YES to the questions above. This is your network, our network! Lets unite and together make a real difference by making the change that we need to see in our time a reality.

Bearing in mind that it is within the logic of time that today's youth/young professionals are the future, lets be proactive and mould our future today by compassionately fighting for an HIV and AIDS free generation with undivided effort and dedication. So JOIN NOW!

For more information on the International Young Professionals HIV and AIDS Network go to <http://projects.takingitglobal.org/YP-HIV-AIDS> or contact Russel Chisango at rasselchisango@iypf.org.

IYPF ACTIVITIES

IYPF and Politics?

One of the things often asked of IYPF is how we are engaging with politics, recognising that government decisions have a very big impact on sustainability, poverty eradication, human rights and all the issues that IYPF and its members concern themselves with.

The IYPF's vision and mission does not have a strong focus on political activism, except to support members in their projects and activities. However, we do recognise its important - but much more important than just 'party' or 'government' politics. In the party political sense, the IYPF is apolitical. We don't support a particular political party in any country, including Australia. However, what we stand for, the activities of our members, our values - they are all inherently political. And we support generally the need for people to participate in the governance of their local communities, their nations and the world.

So what of our politics? Our politics is about participation; it's about local and global communities that support sustainability, the eradication of poverty, justice, peace, healthy humanity; it's about decisions made with humanity, the environment, justice, life as guiding principles.

Recently, some of those who volunteer with IYPF have become involved with a new Australian initiative, called the 2024 network. See www.2024network.org. This initiative isn't about party politics, it's about seeing the values enshrined in social change and sustainability movements represented in government, and thinking about how those things get there. You might like to check it out, especially if you are in Australia.

Resources

The World Bank Urban Poverty Website

www.worldbank.org/urban/poverty

As the world is becoming increasingly urban, there is a growing demand for better understanding of and solutions to the conditions of urban poverty.

This site will help you better understand the issues by providing data, information on policy issues, assessment tools and links on the topic of urban poverty.

It also provides examples of sector based, policy-based and finance-based programs, and methods to make poverty alleviation strategies participatory.

Representation

SIFE Australia Competition

IYPF CEO Cameron Neil was one of the judges in the 2005 Students in Free Enterprise (SIFE) Australia National Competition in Sydney earlier this month.

SIFE is a non-profit organisation active on 1800 college and university campuses in more than 40 countries. Throughout the academic year, SIFE Teams develop and implement educational outreach projects in their communities that teach people of all ages entrepreneurship skills and the principles of market economics, business ethics and financial responsibility. At competition, teams are rated on how well they taught others these skills.

The winning team from the University of South Australia will represent Australia at the 2005 SIFE World Cup Competition in Canada in October.

During the judging, Cameron took the opportunity to discuss with various people involved in SIFE nationally and at university level about partnering with the IYPF. Two SIFE teams in Sydney are now planning to work with IYPF, taking on IYPF activities as their SIFE projects, and others are planning to follow.

In addition, the IYPF plans to present a portfolio of its Member Projects to SIFE globally in June 2006 in order for SIFE teams around the world to provide assistance to project leaders and help them achieve the goals they have for their social and environmental enterprises. This is an exciting partnership and will provide SIFE teams with real world applications for their learning while delivering additional resources to our social change and sustainability efforts.

Initiative 21 Conference

Cameron and IYPF Implementation Team member, Alexandra Meldrum, also presented a paper at the Initiative 21 Conference on Entrepreneurship, Sustainability and Education entitled *Meaning and Impact: Purposeful Entrepreneurship Amongst Young Professionals*.

They spoke about how young professionals are increasingly pursuing sustainability locally and globally through the creation of new enterprises and intrapreneurship within their companies and organisations.

Download this paper at

www.iypf.org/Downloads/I21-presentation-paper-Meaning&Impact-v3-050705.pdf

INSPIRATION AND RESOURCES

Report from Sri Lanka

by Arjun Muralidharan

This is a story of hope amidst fear and despair. Ranjith Jayasekera hails from Sri Lanka, a land which has been torn apart by terrorism and presently by the terror tsunami that caused havoc in many parts of Asia. A science graduate, he went on to complete specialisation courses in Neuro Linguistic Programming from India and Japan. He has worked with many governmental, non-governmental organisations and private sector enterprises in his homeland. Having worked in the fields of community and environmental development almost for twelve years, he founded the "green movement" which is a national organisation for environmental protection.

Ranjith loves to work with school children and conducted many counselling sessions, personality development programs and rehabilitation camps for sexually abused children, fisher folks, plantation workers and the rural youth.

"Make poverty a dream" – that's precisely what he plans for as a leader of the "National Poverty Alleviation Program" called "Janasaviya" funded by the World Bank. In the year 2001, "Vision – Mind Trainer" was his visualisation for a platform

to implement psychological and human resource development programs in Sri Lanka. It aims to provide advanced life skills and encourage entrepreneurship, personnel competency, and advanced skills development.

When tsunami hit the shores of many Asian countries, it did leave behind a tsunami of compassion, humanity and courage. This is evident in the work of hundreds of young heroes like Ranjith.

He currently runs workshops for mental rehabilitation and personnel competency development for tsunami victims, particularly the women and children of the Hambontota district, in the south of Sri Lanka, one of the worst affected regions. Training volunteers for the same purpose, he plans to run a "Mind Development" program for tsunami-affected people in the next couple of months.

A Bio - Vanilla project, bamboo cultivation and community tourism are in his pipe line. He is full of aspirations and determination. On behalf of IYPF we convey our best wishes to all his endeavours in the future.

Comments, feedback and criticism is invited:
muralidhran.arjun@gmail.com

Information on G8 and White Band Day

The following articles will give you a good background on the issues and opinions surrounding the G8 talks and White Band Day:

World Bank G8 Information -

web.worldbank.org/WBSITE/EXTERNAL/NEWS/0,,contentMDK:20567463~pagePK:64257043~piPK:437376~theSitePK:4607,00.html

HIV-AIDS should be the top priority - www.smh.com.au/articles/2005/07/04/1120329381846.html

Business Action for G8 Summit -

www.sustdev.org/index.php?option=content&task=view&id=642

Subscribe to AYF News: Forum on Education of young people in Africa -

lists.kabissa.org/mailman/listinfo/ayf-news

Microcredit -

www.smh.com.au/articles/2005/07/05/1120329448336.html?oneclick=true

Aid for African People, not Governments -

ipsnews.net/news.asp?idnews=29331

Wristband and Concerts Not Enough -

ipsnews.net/news.asp?idnews=29339

Africa Needs Food Security -

ipsnews.net/news.asp?idnews=29299

Africa "Making Good Progress" -

ipsnews.net/news.asp?idnews=29321

For more information check out the Young Professionals and MDGs community at <http://projects.takingitglobal.org/ypmdg>

African Development Indicators 2005

publications.worldbank.org/ecommerce/catalog/product?item_id=4649085

African Development Indicators 2005, launched by the World Bank in June, stresses the need for more generous aid, improved access to markets for African goods and services and for deeper debt relief. The report shows that net aid grew, thanks to higher bilateral and multilateral flows. Debt relief benefited 23 African countries but foreign direct investment dropped.

African Development Indicators assembles economic, social and environmental data from a variety of sources to present a broad picture of development across Africa. It is drawn from the World Bank Africa Database and presents data from 53 African countries and 5 regional country groups, arranged in separate tables or matrices for more than 500 indicators of development.

FEATURE ARTICLE - OPINION

What Will Make a Difference to Poverty?

By Andrew Stanton

IYPF Board Member, Andrew Stanton, shares his view on poverty and debt relief in light of the G8 Summit and Live 8 Concerts this month.

There was global attention to poverty and debt relief in July. The month climaxed with the Live 8 concerts and the G8 Summit in early July. After intense lobbying by the UK, some of the world's 18 poorest countries could apparently look forward to comprehensive debt relief. The Blair – Brown program was being referred to as a 'Marshall Plan for Africa'. Meanwhile, over 2 billion people, primarily in rich western countries, watched the rock concerts on TV.

To most observers in the western hemisphere this would be a historic and defining moment for global solidarity. As a campaigner and advocate for debt relief and poverty reduction I was excited. But I was also reminded that to most Africans, as well as other people in the heavily indebted countries around the world, the concert might as well have never happened. In Africa, an estimated 526 million people do not have access to electricity, let alone a TV set on which to see the Live8 events.

But with many countries now to be relieved of their crushing international debt, debts that have crippled the growth and development of whole nations for decades, Bob Geldof and other campaigners were congratulating each other as well as the leaders of the world's richest countries (!). Perhaps it is right that these events are seen as major and significant achievements.

However, many commentators reminded us of the importance of keeping these developments in perspective. They remind us that debt relief and aid from the west will not automatically result in poverty alleviation on the ground. Nor will it stop the natural disasters, conflict, and resource exploitation that drives people from their traditional lands to urban slums and into lives of dependency. These commentators explain that there are larger more powerful economic forces that will perpetuate poverty and inequality regardless of the goodwill of many in the west.

Others take an even harder line.

They point to the fact that while the G8 Summit committed the richest countries to increase aid and write off the debt of 18 countries, it also required developing countries to pursue a raft of free-market policies. These policies, on which debt relief and aid are being made conditional, include 'creating a more favourable business

environment' and ensuring 'the elimination of impediments to private investment, both domestic and foreign'.

Most people would think that countries where poverty kills thousands every day have no obligations towards the rich. But it seems G8 Governments, while talking big on poverty reduction, are set on helping western companies make their profits by pursuing policies favourable to them.

Unfortunately, many of these policies, most notably those relating to the extraction of natural resources, are the root cause of poverty and inequality in the former British, French, American and German colonies.

Take the Democratic Republic of Congo as an example - a former Belgian colony, independent for over 50 years, but deeply impoverished after two centuries of resource pillaging and conflict. Now even neighbouring nations are joining in the plunder, but 32 corporations, all of them from G8, dominate the DRC economy.

The vast mineral resources of this country have not led to development for the people, but economic domination by western mining companies, and almost endless conflict. Some several million Congolese are said to have died in war in the past decades alone. Death squads and militias, often sponsored by mining companies, still expand their control of large areas of the country, particularly in the mineral rich east.

It seems to me that debt relief and increased aid will probably not help ordinary Congolese, even if it does make it through the corrupt government administration and to the people. On the other hand, if history is anything to go by, increased investment by foreign corporations will lead simply to more bloodshed and poverty in this unlucky country.

I feel strongly that only direct partnerships, long-term assistance, and programs to increase the potential for people to determine their own development paths will enable the level of understanding needed to address these entrenched problems. As an international youth organisation committed to progressive social change, I believe the IYPF has an important role to play.

MILLENNIUM DEVELOPMENT GOALS

MDG Open Forum

The first MDG West Africa Open Forum was held in Dakar, Senegal on June 16. The forum, organised by TakingITGlobal in partnership with the Africa Network Campaign on Education for All, coincided with the International Celebration of African Child Day and saw the official launch of the MDG West Africa Youth Caucus. The youth caucus and other youth activists gathered in Dakar to identify their role in the fight against poverty and the struggle to reach the MDGs in the West Africa Region. It was also attended by major West African MDG stakeholders including the Millennium Campaign Regional Coordinator Coumba Toure, who stressed: "Poverty is not destiny. The same way we defeated Apartheid, we can defeat poverty."

Science and Technology the Future of Africa?

An article in New Scientist magazine claims developing science and technology industries could improve the economy of African cities.

The Indian cities of Hyderabad and Bangalore have had their economies boosted by computer and telecoms industries.

Professor Calestous Juma, co-ordinator of the UN's Millennium Project Task Force on Science, Technology and Innovation, suggests the universities of Africa could improve the country in a similar way by focussing more on scientific studies.

"By turning them into science and technology powerhouses, universities can instead produce entrepreneurs and innovators, while businesses can be encouraged to develop the innovative and cutting-edge technologies that form the foundations of industrialisation," he was quoted as saying.

More articles on Professor Juma's views can be found at

<http://news.bbc.co.uk/1/hi/sci/tech/4657963.stm>

<http://cooltech.iafrica.com/technews/546700.htm>

World Urban Forum

www.unhabitat.org/wuf/2006

UN-HABITAT and the Canadian government are preparing for the 3rd World Urban Forum, a meeting that will bring together public and private institutions, experts and decision-makers from around the world to discuss the key urban challenges facing the world today. The Forum will take place in Vancouver, Canada, from 19 to 23 June 2006.

It is projected that in the next 50 years, two-thirds of humanity will be living in towns and cities. A major challenge is to minimize burgeoning poverty in cities and improve the urban poor's access to basic facilities such as shelter, clean water and sanitation.

The Forum provides for effective participation of NGOs, community-based organisations, urban professionals, academics, governments, local authorities and national and international associations of local governments. It gives all partners a common platform in the conceptual, preparatory and formal discussions.

The Forum is relatively informal to generate a healthy and inclusive debate on urban issues. The 3rd World Urban Forum will retain the format of dialogue meetings that provide the main focus of the Forum, and networking events that allow Habitat Agenda Partners to meet a narrower, more specialised audience.

Youth Leadership and the Challenges of MDG 8, NEPAD and APRM Process

A nine-week online school from August 15th to October 16th 2005 will discuss peace-building, ICTs for development, economics, agriculture, finance, sustainable development, gender, security and regional integration.

The course is organised by the West Africa Youth Network (www.waynyouth.org), Africa Peace (www.africa-peace.org), and Positive Africa in collaboration with Youth Action for Change (www.youthactionforchange.org). It aims to analyse NEPAD (New Partnership for African Development) and the role young people can play towards the implementation of NEPAD and the APRM Process within the broader context of the MDGs (Goal no. 8). Participants will have the opportunity to discuss the themes covered in this course among themselves and with experts, thanks to the participation of officers from the United Nations (UNDP Ghana) and the NEPAD Secretariat. Members of the United Network of Young Peace-Builders (UNOY), the African Network of Young Peace-Builders (ANYP), and African students living in the Diaspora will also join these discussions.

For details on how to join, contact wayn_ghana@yahoo.com or samabbey@africamail.com or send a blank email to mdgandnepad-subscribe@yahoogroups.com

IYPF PARTNER PROJECTS

Oxfam International Youth Parliament Case Study Collection

www.iyp.oxfam.org

The Oxfam International Youth Parliament (OIYP) recently launched a Case Study Collection - Awareness Raising and Behavioural Change: Strategies in the OIYP Network. You can download the publication from <http://iyp.oxfam.org/news>.

This publication presents a series of case studies and questions for reflection on strategies for change. In the collection there are case studies on workshops, peer education, campaigning, creative action for change and technology platforms for change.

OIYP is giving young people the chance contribute by taking part in a research survey at <http://surveys.takingitglobal.org/survey.html?SurveyID=36>. They are also running an Online Forum from August 1 to August 28 where Action Partners, OIYP advisors and special guests will share their experiences of using these strategies, different approaches to social marketing and how to monitor and assess the impact of these approaches.

Young Professional's Alliance

www.ypa.net.au

One of the IYPFs newest partnerships is with the recently established Young Professional Alliance (YPA). This is a not-for-profit peak association of professional and industry organisations whose activities cater for professionals aged 18 to 40 working in the Australian Capital Territory (ACT) and surrounding region. The YPA brings together a wide range of organisations and individuals within the ACT to foster synergies between them and to support the professional development of the regions young professionals. They represent over 3000 young professionals from several professional networks and associations.



Its membership spans the arts, design, communications, marketing, law, engineering, accounting, business, IT, environmental management, small business, financial sector and the public service. YPA aims to:

- Promote and support the activities of young professional organisations in the ACT region
- Support the long term commitment of young professionals to the ACT
- Provide the opportunity for young professionals to expand their networks and professional development opportunities.

Youth Employment Summit (YES)

www.yesweb.org

The YES Campaign has been implementing programs around the globe to increase youth employment and help to achieve the MDGs. Current projects include:

- YES Singapore has been awarded a grant to train volunteers to assist out-of-school youth in planning, getting, and keeping a job through career planning. The program will also facilitate their progression through creative solutions in education, employment and entrepreneurship.
- YES India has launched a Vocational Skills Training Project to train 20 Tsunami-affected youth in association with local partnering NGOs.
- YES Rwanda has worked with YES HQ to help the UN Economic Commission for Africa put together their next two-year plan for youth employment. They have built a partnership, the Alliance for African Youth Employability Partners (AAYE), with

the International Youth Foundation, Lions Club International, Nokia, Youth Development Trust, and USAID.

- Plans are underway for the YES Latin America Encounter, due to take place in Paraguay in September with the support of stakeholders such as UN agencies and the Government of Paraguay.
- Preparations for YES Kenya 2006 are also underway and the YES team are continuing to build their portfolio of YES pilot projects in collaboration with the YES Country Network partners.



OPPORTUNITIES

Asia Pacific Roundtable for Sustainable Consumption

www.6aprsdp.com

Delegates from the Asia Pacific Region and those interested in the region's development are invited to Melbourne, Australia in October to confront the challenges of cleaner production and sustainable consumption and encourage the integration of these strategies into government programs and business activity.

The shift to living sustainably in a sustainable economy implies significant changes to our current systems of production and consumption. The Roundtable is primarily focused on understanding this change and gaining insights on how to adapt to it and benefit from it. It will bring together leading keynote speakers and researchers to consider the implications for business, policy and strategy, innovation and design, consumption patterns, regional development and education and capacity building.

Water Opportunities

www.yrc2006.iwa-conferences.org

The Call for Papers is now open for the third International Water Association Young Researchers Conference, to be held in Singapore from May 24 to 26, 2006. This biennial event for water professionals and students under the age of 35 is now accepting two-page Outline Papers covering all aspects of the water cycle. The deadline for submissions is September 30th 2005.

www.ywp.iwahq.com

The International Water Association Young Water Professionals Programme provides professional development and networking opportunities to young professionals and students in the water and wastewater sector under the age of 35. As well as engaging with YWPs, the programme also connects with employers, academic institutions and other professional associations to ensure that the future needs of the sector are understood and addressed.

Kyoto World Water Grand Prize

www.worldwatercouncil.org/kyoto_prize

A new prize worth approximately US\$45,000 will be awarded in March 2006 for grassroots-level activities which address critical water needs of communities and regions, corresponding to the overall theme of the 4th World Water Forum, "Local Actions for a Global Challenge". Thirty finalists will be invited to attend the 4th World Water Forum in Mexico City in March 2006, of which ten will present their activities to the International Panel of Judges and share their experiences with Forum participants. Prize applicants must register their local actions in the "Local Actions of the World" database to enter. Submissions close October 31, 2005.

Cash for Case Studies

www.odi.org.uk/Rapid/Projects/PPA0104/Index.html

Civil Society Organisations Partnership Programme need short case studies and will offer \$1500 for 1500 words if your proposal is successful. As part of a new programme, the Overseas Development Institute (ODI) is looking for short case studies on the topic of Civil Society Organisations (CSOs), Evidence and Policy Influence. The case studies should be simple stories, based on existing knowledge, which describe episodes where CSOs have engaged with policy processes, the nature of the impact they have had (if any), the reasons why and the relative role of research-based evidence in the process. Proposals should be 500 words long. The priority is for cases from authors in developing countries. Proposals must be sent using the online application form.

Funding Opportunity

Peace Child International, the Scottish Council for Voluntary Organisations (SCVO) and Lloyds TSB Foundation for Scotland are working together to set up an international fund to support 40 to 50 youth-led development projects costing \$500 to \$1,000 designed chiefly to benefit the most disadvantaged in society. This fund will be distributed at the World Youth Congress event in Stirling, Scotland on Saturday August 6 to quality projects submitted from developing countries or emerging economies. If you have a well-thought-out, well-researched small project, please visit <http://surveys.takingitglobal.org/survey.html?SurveyID=32> to fill out the application form online and submit it by July 29.

nGoAbroad

www.nGoAbroad.com

nGoAbroad is a clearinghouse and referral service that custom-fits peoples' skills, interests and goals to international humanitarian needs. Projects include helping social workers to aid refugees, midwives to prevent women from dying in childbirth, and occupational and physical therapists to treat disabilities, amputees and mine victims.

"Helping to build scientific expertise will do for Africa what the invention of the electric guitar did for Bob Geldof."

Professor Calestous Juma

ABOUT IYPF

What is the IYPF?

The International Young Professionals Foundation (IYPF) is a not-for-profit public company working in the fields of human rights, poverty eradication, environment, and social capital, within the broad context of sustainability.

It utilises and promotes the resources, skills, and knowledge that Young Professionals can bring to this arena in order to create a better world for current and future generations.

The Foundation intends to be a premier avenue through which Young Professionals from all countries can promote and participate in projects that work towards a sustainable future for the world. We see the term 'young professionals' as inclusive of a wide variety of people, but particularly those who are at the beginning of their careers.

The IYPF is governed by an international board of outstanding young professionals and is growing an impressive list of patrons on its Advisory Council including the President of the World Federation of Engineering Organisations, the Chair of the Commonwealth Engineering Council, the Executive Director of the Youth Employment Summit, and the Director of Friends of the Earth (Hong Kong). The company is staffed by a dynamic volunteer team of talented and dedicated young professionals.

Specifically, the objects of the Foundation outlined in its constitution are:

- To promote and encourage the work done by young professionals in effecting positive global change.
- To facilitate the implementation of projects developed by members to address the issues of concern in the global community, which are consistent with the objects of the company, including the raising of funds where necessary.
- To further the networks formed during the International Young Professionals Summit 2001 and provide an ongoing platform for organisation and convening of future events and Summits and projects.
- To promote recognition of, mobilise and enhance the capacity of Young Professionals internationally to provide leadership and take action on global issues
- To undertake research and advocacy in regards to issues identified by members as vital to the creation of a preferred global future.

How You Can Help

Join our team

www.iypf.org/employment.htm

If you are interested in developing yourself professionally through volunteering your time to assist the IYPF achieve its vision, contact IYPF's Human Resources Officer, Britt Jacobsen, on brittjacobsen@iypf.org.

Become a member

www.iypf.org/membership.htm

Become a member and help IYPF develop a worldwide network of young professionals who catalyse positive change in their lives, communities, organisations, and ultimately the world. We want you!

Spread the word

Send this newsletter, or a link to the IYPF website, to your friends and colleagues. Get them to sign up to receive this newsletter monthly by entering their email address in the subscribe box on the front page of our website.

Help others become members

www.iypf.org/payments.htm#donations

The IYPF maintains a Membership Donations Trust fund to assist young professionals who wish to be IYPF members but who cannot afford the full fees.

Share opportunities and resources

www.iypf.org/IYPF-campaigns.htm

Join your regional online community and share development opportunities, sustainability, and social change resources with other young professionals. You can also join (or start) topical communities on sustainability and social change issues, including globalisation, fresh water, poverty eradication and ICTs.

Support

www.iypf.org/member-projects.htm

IYPF has a number of endorsed projects and supports its members to turn their ideas into successful projects and ventures. The IYPF regularly receives new project proposals and there are always opportunities for young professionals to get involved.

Contribute to the IYPF Newsletter

To contribute your events, resources, articles and stories relevant to young professionals creating a better world for current and future generations, send your content to nicolerandall@iypf.org